

CHRYSOMELIDAE AND CURCULIONOIDEA FROM DUBBS MOSS 71
RECORDS OF CHRYSOMELIDAE AND
CURCULIONOIDEA (COLEOPTERA) FROM DUBBS
MOSS NATURE RESERVE, WEST CUMBRIA

By R. W. J. READ*

Introduction

Dubbs Moss Nature Reserve in Cumbria is situated 2 kilometres South West of Cockermouth and 1 kilometre to the North East of Eaglesfield village and it is one of several nature reserves in West Cumbria which are owned and managed by the Cumbria Trust for Nature Conservation. The reserve falls within two, one kilometre squares of the National Grid, NY10.28 and NY10.29 and it covers an area of approximately 18 acres. Overlying a narrow strip of Carboniferous limestone running at this point from South West to North East, Dubbs Moss consists basically of fen, scrub and old mixed woodland; and the whole area lies in a small depression completely surrounded by quite intensively cultivated farmland.

During the past three years I have, with the kind permission of the Cumbria Trust for Nature Conservation, and the Honorary Manager of the reserve Mr. John Callion carried out a small survey of the phytophagous Coleoptera of Dubbs Moss and the following list of species is the result of five visits made to the reserve between September 1980 and October 1981. The individual dates are as follows, 21.ix.80; 20.iv.81; 7.vi.81; 2.viii.81 and 3.x.81.

In most cases specimens were collected by sweeping and beating the recognized hostplants. Samples of leaf litter and moss were also collected from the scrub and woodland areas for subsequent examination and extraction of beetles. The details of collecting have been kept to a minimum in the present list and all the individual dates of capture are summarised to months only.

The Compartments

For convenience the reserve has been divided into four main broad compartments, briefly described and listed below. In order to save space, and facilitate ease of reference, each compartment referred to in the species list is indicated by the appropriate letter only.

A — This area is on the highest (76 metres) and driest part of the reserve and is essentially scrub hawthorn with a few scattered bushes of *Prunus spinosa* L. Other dominant plants are *Ulex europaeus* L and *Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull.

B — This is a predominantly wet fen area with rushes and sedges. It also includes large communities of *Angelica sylvestris* L., *Fili-*
*43 Holly Terrace, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 8RF.

pendula ulmaria (L.) Maxim, *Lotus pedunculatus* Cav., and a small stand of *Iris pseudacorus* L. *Salix atrocinerea* Brot is the dominant tree in the wetter parts with scattered individuals of *S. viminalis* L. One interesting feature of this area is a small man made pond situated in the north west corner which has attracted a variety of aquatic life including insects.

C — This is birch woodland with scattered trees of Scots Pine, Mountain ash and Oak saplings. The wood is damp and shaded but in places there is an understory of honeysuckle and bramble with quite a luxurious carpet of ferns and bryophytes.

D — A narrow strip of bog and grassland, similar to B but containing a richer variety of herbaceous plants. There are also small, interesting patches of heathy vegetation and scrub near the main drainage ditch which runs parallel with the birch wood on the western side.

The nomenclature in the following list of species is according to Kloet & Hincks (1977).

CHRYSOMELIDAE

Oulema lichensis Voet — Tapped from *Angelica sylvestris* L., and *Filipendula ulmaria* (L.), A, June.

Cryptocephalus labiatus (Linnaeus) — general sweeping, C.; June.

Chrysolina fastuosa (Scopoli) — swept from general herbage, C, D; April, August.

C. staphylaea (Linnaeus) — At base of *Plantago lanceolata*, A; September.

Phaedon tumidulus (Germar) — general sweeping, A, C; June, August.

Hydrothassa marginella — on leaves of *Ranunculus repens*, B; June.

Prasocuris phelandrii (Linnaeus) — Tapped and swept from *Angelica sylvestris* and *Filipendula ulmaria*, B; August.

Phyllodecta vitellinae (Linnaeus) — beaten from *Salix atrocinerea*, C; June.

P. vulgatissima (Linnaeus) — beaten from *S. atrocinerea*, C; June.

Galerucella lineola (Fabricius) — one beaten from *S. atrocinera*, B; June.

G. tenella (Linnaeus) — swept in large numbers from *Filipendula ulmaria*, A, B; April, August, September, October.

Lochmaea crategi (Forster) — beaten from *Crataegus monogyna*, D; April.

Apthona nonstriata (Goeze) — on leaf of *Iris pseudacorus*, A; April.

Longitarsus luridus (Scopoli) — swept from low herbage, A; August, September.

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L. suturellus (Duftschmid) — general sweeping, A; September.

Chalcoides fulvicornis (Fabricius) — beaten from *Salix atrocinerea*, C; April June.

Mantura obtusata (Gyllenhal) — swept from low herbage, D; June.

Chaetocnema hortensis (Fourcroy) — swept from general herbage, D; June.

Sphaeroderma testaceum (Fabricius) — sweeping, mainly *Centaurea nigra*, A; September.

Psylliodes affinis (Paykull) — tapped from *Solanum dulcamara*, D; August.

Cassida rubiginosa Muller, O. F. — general sweeping, A; August.

ATTELABIDAE

Deporaus betulae (Linnaeus) — beaten from *Betula pendula*, C; June.

APIONIDAE

Apion curtirostre Germar — swept from low herbage including *Rumex acetosa*, B, C; June, September.

A. violaceum Kirby, W. — general sweeping low herbage, B; August.

A. ulicis (Forster) — beaten in numbers from *Ulex europaeus*, A; April.

A. carduorum Kirby, W. — tapped from *Cirsium arvense*, A; August.

A. loti Kirby, W. — general sweeping, A; June.

A. spencii Kirby, W. — swept from low herbage including *Vicia* sp. C, D; June.

A. viciae (Paykull) — tapped from *Lathyrus pratensis*, A; June.

A. craccae (Linnaeus) — tapped from low herbage, including *Vicia cracca*, A; September.

A. apricans Herbst — general sweeping, mainly *Trifolium pratense*, A; June.

CURCULIONIDAE

Otiorhynchus singularis (Linnaeus) — beaten from *Prunus spinosa*, C. April.

Phyllobius argentatus (Linnaeus) — general sweeping under *Betula*, C; June.

P. calcaratus (Fabricius) — tapped from bracken, C; June.

P. pomaceus Gyllenhal — swept from low herbage, D; June.

P. pyri (Linnaeus) — beaten from *Prunus spinosa*, A; June.

P. viridiaeris (Laicharting) — tapped from *Filipendula ulmaria*, B; June.

- P. viridicollis* (Fabricius) — swept from mixed herbage, D. June.
Polydrusus cervinus (Linnaeus) — general sweeping, C; June.
P. pterygomalis Boheman — swept from low herbage, C; June.
Barypeithes pellucidus (Boheman) — beaten from *Prunus spinosa*, A; June.
Strophosomus melanogrammus (Forster) — beaten from oak sapling, C; August.
Barynotus moerens (Fabricius) — grubbing at base of *Plantago lanceolata*, A; April.
Tropiphorus terricola (Newman) — base of *P. lanceolata*, A; April.
Sitona striatellus Gyllenhal — beaten from *Ulex europaeus*, A; September.
S. sulcifrons (Thunberg) — swept from low herbage including *Trifolium* sp. A; June.
S. suturalis Stephens — general sweeping, B; September.
Cionus scrophulariae (Linnaeus) — tapped from *Scrophularia nodosa*, D; June.
Cleopus pulchellus (Herbst) — adults and larvae on leaves of *S. nodosa*, D; June.
Leiosoma deflexum (Panzer) — on leaves of *Ranunculus repens*, A. September.
Magdalis ruficornis (Linnaeus) — beaten from *Crataegus monogyna*, A; June.
Acalles ptinoides (Marsham) — several in leaf litter, C; September.
Dorytomus taeniatus (Fabricius) — beaten from *Salix atrocinerea*, B; April.
Notaris acridulus (Linnaeus) — swept from general herbage, B; August.
Coeliodes rubicundus (Herbst) — sweeping under *Betula*, C; June.
Zacladus geranii (Paykull) — tapped from *Geranium pratense*, D; June.
Micrelus ericae (Gyllenhal) — tapped from *Calluna vulgaris*, A; April.
Cidnorhinus quadrimaculatus (Linnaeus) — swept from *Urtica dioica*, C; September.
Ceuthorhynchidius troglodytes (Fabricius) — at base of *Plantago lanceolata*, A; April.
Ceutorhynchus contractus (Marsham) — in leaf litter, C; September.
C. cochleariae (Gyllenhal) — in leaf litter, C; September.
C. litura (Fabricius) — tapped from *Cirsium arvense*, A; August.
C. pollinarius (Forster) — tapped from *Urtica dioica*, C; September.
C. viduatus (Gyllenhal) — swept from low herbage including *Stachys palustris*, D; June.

Rhinoncus pericarpus (Linnaeus) – at base of *Rumex acetosa*, C; April.

Phytobius comari (Herbst) – on leaves of *Potentilla palustris*, B; April.

P. quadrituberculatus (Fabricius) – in leaf litter, C; September.

Anthonomus bituberculatus Thomson, C. G. – beaten from *Crataegus*, A; August.

A. brunnipennis (Curtis) – beaten from *Ulex europaeus*. (This species is normally associated with *Potentilla erecta*), A; September.

A. pedicularius (Linnaeus) – beaten from *Crataegus monogyna*, A; April.

Curculio salicivorus Paykull – beaten from *Salix atrocinerea*, B; June.

Gymnetron labile (Herbst) – general sweeping, A; April.

Rhynchaenus rusci (Herbst) – swept from low herbage near to *Betula*, C; August.

Ramphus pulicarius (Herbst) – general sweeping, A; August.

The total number of phytophagous Coleoptera recorded from Dubbs Moss Nature Reserve in the present list is 74 – Chrysomelidae 21; Attelabidae 1; Apionidae 9; Curculionidae 43.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Miss J. Ketchen, conservation officer of the Cumbria Trust for Nature Conservation, for very kindly granting me permission to visit and collect on the reserve. I am also most grateful to the Honorary Manager Mr. John Callion for giving me unrestricted access to the reserve while collecting and for much useful information regarding the general natural history of the area.

Reference

Kloet, G. S. & Hincks, W. D., 1977. A check list of British insects. 2nd Edition (Revised by R. D. Pope), Coleoptera and Stresiptera. *Handbk. Ident. Br. Insects*, **11**(3): xiv, 105.

THE MARSH PUG AND DEATH'S HEAD HAWKMOTH IN NORTH WARWICKSHIRE. – On June 4th 1983 I netted a good specimen of *Eupithecia pygmaeata* Hbn. at Kingsbury Water Park, which was satisfactorily photographed. I understand that this is a new record for Warwickshire V.C.38.

Whilst visiting the same site on a birding trip, I was shown a fine example of *Acherontia atropos* L. by Mr. Edwin Hopkins, head warden of the Water Park. This moth was reportedly found on 12th October 1983, in a grass field near the River Tame (SP 213963) about a mile from the nearest potato field. – R. J. THOMAS, 23 Trentham Road, Harts Hill, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 OSN.